

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 6, beginning on line 12 as follows:

As can be seen from the drawings, the majority of the window operator 10 is mounted to the window frame and located within a cavity. The cavity which is formed between the window frame F and the window sash S, when the sash is in the closed position. The window operator handle 11 is mounted with a mounting plate or housing 12 which surface mounts to the surface of the frame F.

Please amend the paragraph on page 6, beginning on line 20 (continuing to page 7) as follows:

A drive shaft (not shown) extends from the handle 11 through the frame F to engage with bevel gears (not shown) located within a housing 13. The housing 13 is mounted with, or formed as part of, a mounting plate 14, which forms a mounting for the operator 10 to be mounted to the window frame. The mounting plate 14 is provided with suitable openings 15 for attachment by suitable mechanical fasteners to the frame F.

Please amend the paragraph on page 7, beginning on line 4 as follows:

The bevel gears within housing 13 are drivingly coupled to a lead screw 16 which is journaled in suitable bearings 17. The bearings 17 and lead screw 16, are in the preferred form, located within an elongate housing 18 which extends along one side of mounting plate 14. The housing 18 is provided with an elongate longitudinally extending gap 19 (See Figure 4) which is located adjacent to, but slightly above, the surface of mounting plate 14.

Please amend the paragraph on page 7, beginning on line 13 as follows:

A nut 66 is threaded onto the lead screw 16. Nut 66 is coupled to a coupling device comprising a driver 67, follower 21 and mounting plate 23. Accordingly, as handle 11 is rotated, a drive via the drive shaft and bevel gears is imparted to the lead screw 16. Depending on the rotation of the handle 11, the nut 66 moves along the lead screw 16

either toward the housing 13 (window opening) or toward the distal end of the lead screw 16 (window closing).

Please amend the paragraph on page 7, beginning on line 22 (continuing on page 8) as follows:

The driver 67 has a sleeve 20 which is journaled onto lead screw 16. The driver 67 is also coupled in a manner which will hereinafter be described to a follower 21. The follower 21 has a sliding element 22 which slides within elongate housing 18. Furthermore the follower 21 has a mounting plate 23 to which arms 24 and 25 of a window stay 26 are mounted by pivot bearings 27.

The window stay 26 is of a largely conventional construction whereby arm 24 is pivotally coupled at one end to a sash mounting plate 68 while arm 25 is pivotally coupled in the length of a long arm 28. This long arm 28 is also pivotally coupled at one end to the sash plate 68. The other end of the long arm 28 is pivotally mounted by bearing 29 to a mounting flange or base 30.

Please amend the paragraph on page 10, beginning on line 1 as follows:

The lock plates 35 and 36 are coupled by a corner drive 37 which essentially consists of a housing 38 within which a connector means 39 in the form of a strap is slidably engaged. One end of the strap ~~connector means~~ 39 is coupled to lock plate 35 while the other end is coupled to lock plate 36. The housing has openings 38a which enables the housing to be fastened by, e.g., screws to the corner of the sash.

Please amend the paragraph on page 10, beginning on line 9 as follows:

In a conventional manner, a pair of elongate slots 40 are formed in lock plate 35. Engaged through slots 40 are headed pins, spigots or the like 40' which engage or are fastened to the sash S. More or less slots 40 and spigots 40' may be employed as necessary. This is a known arrangement which enables the lock plate 35 to be longitudinally slidable. In a like manner, elongate slots 41 are provided in the second lock plate 36 so that it also is slidably mountable with the sash S.

Please amend the paragraph on page 12, beginning on line 1 as follows:

However, as the sash approaches its closed position, the slot 47 inclines toward the edge of the mounting plate 14 opposite that at which the housing 18 is located. This causes pin 46 to progressively slide transversely so that it ultimately takes up a position whereby it is aligned with the long portion of L-shaped slot 48. Consequently as the nut 66 continues to move along the lead screw 16, the coupling between the driver 67 and the follower 21 ceases. As a result, the driver 67 moves independent of the follower 21. This corresponds with relative movement between the driver 67 and pin 46 so that ultimately pin 46 locates at the end of the long portion of L-shaped slot 48.

Please amend the paragraph on page 12, beginning on line 15 (continuing on page 13) as follows:

As the sash S approaches its fully closed position, a tab 50 fixed with driver 67 engages in a cut-out 51 in the downwardly projecting coupler 52. The coupler 52 ~~which is~~ mounted by rivets 53 or the like to the underside of lock plate 35. Consequently, continued movement of driver 67 applies via the inter-engagement of tab 50 ~~in~~ coupler 52, a longitudinal sliding movement to plate 35. This movement is transferred via corner drive 37 to lock plate 36 so that the pins 44 locate behind flanges 43 of keepers 42, as hereinbefore described. Locking of the non hinge-side of the sash in the frame in a multi-point locking arrangement is thereby achieved.

Please amend the paragraph on page 13, beginning on line 4 as follows:

Pivot 54 which joins arm 25 to the long arm 28 has a downwardly projecting portion 57 (see Figure 6) which engages in a shaped slot 55 in the driver 67. As the sash S approaches a closed position the projecting portion 57 enters the forward facing open end of the angled portion of slot 55. The projecting portion 57 thus ultimately becomes located behind upstand 56, which forms part of the slot 55. Therefore, the window stay 26 is locked in the closed position by the engagement of the projecting portion 57 behind the upstand 56.

Please amend the paragraph on page 13, beginning on line 15 as follows:

As a consequence of the above described arrangement, the handle 11 can be rotated beyond the point where the operator 10 has, via stay 26, moved the sash S to a fully closed position within frame F. This rotation results in multi-point locking of the sash to automatically occur. This is due to the engagement of pins 44 with keepers 42 and the projecting portion 57 behind upstand 56. The hinge side of the sash S is further locked in position by the headlock 33 cooperating with the stay 26 in a conventional manner.

Please amend the paragraph on page 14, beginning on line 1 as follows:

Upon the handle 11 being wound to open the window sash S, the first action which takes place is movement of the driver 67 relative to the follower 21, which in the reverse of the previously mentioned operation, aligns the tab 50 with cut out opening 51 in coupler 52 and positions the projecting portion 57 of pivot bearing 54 in slot 55 so that it is clear of upstand 56. Therefore, the first action upon operation of the operator 10 is an unlocking action.

Please amend the paragraph on page 14, beginning on line 11 as follows:

Continued movement of the driver 19 results in pin 46 engaging with the end wall of the long portion of L-shaped slot 48. This thereby effecting a driving coupling with the follower 21 so that the follower 21 commences movement and operates the window stay 26 in a normal manner so as to cause the sash S to open.

Please amend the paragraph on page 15, beginning on line 4 as follows:

Most of these corner drive devices use a single piece housing (usually zinc). This which necessitates fixing the strap to one or both connectors once the connectors and strap have been assembled into the housing. A different approach, however, is taken in the corner drive device which is preferably used in the present invention.

Please amend the paragraph on page 15, beginning on line 15 as follows:

The housing 38 is comprised of two identical parts 59. These are constructed and arranged so that they can be snapped together by clips. The strap 39 is placed in one of

the housing parts 59, and the ~~The~~ second housing part 59 is then snapped onto the first part to complete the unit.

Please amend the paragraph on page 15, beginning on line 21 (continuing to page 16) as follows:

Figure 8 provides a perspective illustration of one of the housing components 59. This illustrates that adjacent each housing opening 38a are a pair of legs 60 each having oppositely and outwardly disposed ramp portions 61. To the other side of each opening 38a is a slot 62. Accordingly, when two of the housing components 59 are brought together, the respective legs 60 engage into the opposing slot 62 in a snap-lock arrangement. ~~This to~~ thereby couples the housing components 59 together.

Please amend the paragraph on page 16, beginning on line 7 as follows:

During installation of the corner drive ~~379~~, the housing components 59 are additionally secured together by the fixing screws which extend through openings 38a to mount the corner drive device to the window sash or frame. The fixing screws pass through the front screw boss 63, one of the housing components 59 and the back screw boss 64 of the other component, ~~these~~ ~~The~~ two bosses 63 and 64 combining to define the aforementioned opening 38a.

Please amend the paragraph on page 16, beginning on line 21 as follows:

Essentially, therefore, the drive unit comprises two identical snap-together housing components which enable the connectors 58 and strap 39 to be assembled together, prior to fitting to the housing.

Please amend the paragraph on page 17, beginning on line 1 as follows:

Referring to Figures 10 and 11, there is shown an alternative arrangement whereby there is "lost motion" coupling between the driver 67 and the follower 21. This mechanism is effectively formed by a toggle device comprising a first toggle arm 70 pivotally coupled at one end to the follower 21. The other toggle arm 71 is pivotally coupled to the driver 67. The free end of the toggle arm 71 has an upstand 72. In the

vicinity of the pivot coupling of the first toggle arm 70, to the follower 21, there is a shoulder 73.

Please amend the paragraph on page 17, beginning on line 13 as follows:

Usually, as shown in Figure 10, the toggle arms 70 and 71 are aligned or straight. The arms 70 and 71 are prevented from toggling one way by the shoulder 73 on the follower 21, and the other way by the upstand 72 on the toggle arm 71 resting on the elongate housing 18.

Please amend the paragraph on page 17, beginning on line 19 (continuing to page 18) as follows:

When the window sash is almost closed the control arm 25 of the stay hits the upstand 72 and induces toggling to occur. This occurs when the upstand 72 is opposite a notch 74 in the housing 18. The free ends of the toggle arms 70 and 71 are, thus, able to pivot into the cavity of the housing 18. As a ~~with the result, that~~ the driver 67 can move independently of the follower 21 and thereby carry out the locking action as described previously.

Please amend the paragraph on page 18, beginning on line 4 as follows:

Upon opening of the window sash the toggle arms 70 and 71 are pulled straight by the driver 67 moving during the unlocking operation. Upon the arms moving into the aligned or straight position, the coupling effect between the driver 67 and follower 21 is complete. As a ~~with the result, that~~ the follower 21 moves in response to movement of the driver 67.

Please amend the paragraph on page 18, beginning on line 12 as follows:

When the toggling of the toggle arms 70 and 71 occurs at the sash moving to its closed position, the pin 54 is captured by the slot 55, as described previously. However, in an alternative arrangement, as shown in Figure 12, the slot 55 can be repositioned on the driver 67 and engageable therein is a pin (not shown) which is mounted with the control arm 25 rather than at the pivot join of the control arm and the long arm 28.